

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for distributing programming, the method comprising:

transmitting a first set of programs in real time according to a schedule of programming;

storing a second set of programs on a server, each of which is configured to be played for a user from the server under the user's playback control and at least one of the first set of programs having a counterpart in the second set of programs, wherein the counterpart in the second set of programs is substantially identical to the at least one of the first set of programs; and

transmitting a notification signal to distinguish at least one of the second set of programs on the server from programs not on the server.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein transmitting the notification signal to distinguish at least one of the second set of programs on the server comprises:

identifying when the user has tuned to a particular program according to the schedule of programming, the particular program having a counterpart program on the server; and

superimposing a notification symbol on the particular program.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 2 wherein the notification symbol is an icon.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 2 wherein the notification symbol is an alphanumeric string.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein transmitting the notification signal to distinguish at least one of the second set of programs on the server comprises:

detecting a user request for descriptive information regarding a particular program being transmitted according to the schedule of programming;

transmitting descriptive information regarding the particular program;

determining whether the particular program has a counterpart stored on the server; and

superimposing a notification symbol on the descriptive information if it is determined that the particular program has a counterpart stored on the server.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 5 wherein detecting the user request for descriptive information regarding the particular program comprises receiving a wireless request from a remote control.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 5 wherein the notification symbol is an icon.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 5 wherein the notification symbol is an alphanumeric string.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein transmitting the notification signal to distinguish at least one of the second set of programs on the server comprises:

detecting a user request for a menu of programs;

transmitting the menu of programs in accordance with the user request;

determining which programs within the menu have a counterpart stored on the server;

superimposing at least one notification symbol on the menu to denote each such program having a counterpart stored on the server.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 9 wherein each notification symbol is an icon.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 9 wherein each notification symbol is an alphanumeric string.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 9 wherein the menu comprises a description of the schedule of programming.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 9 wherein the menu consists of a list of the second set of programs.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein transmitting the notification signal to distinguish at least one of the second set of programs on the server comprises:

detecting a user request for a display of the schedule of programming;
transmitting a display of the schedule of programming in accordance with the user request;

determining which programs within the schedule of programming have a counterpart stored on the server; and

superimposing at least one notification symbol on the display of the schedule of programming to denote each such program having a counterpart stored on the server.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 14 wherein each notification symbol is an icon.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 14 wherein each notification symbol is an alphanumeric string.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising:
transmitting a menu of programs from which the user can select a particular program to be played under the control of the user;
verifying the user's authorization to access programs from the server.

18. (Original) The method according to claim 17 wherein verifying the user's authorization to access programs from the server is performed after transmitting the menu of programs and wherein the menu of programs identifies only programs stored on the server.

19. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the server is located remotely from the user.

20. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the server is located on a set-top box local to the user.

21. (Previously Presented) A method for notifying a user of programming, the method comprising:

providing a system to transmit a set of programs to a user according to a schedule of programming, at least some of which are configured also to be available from a server under the playback control of the user; and

transmitting a notification symbol within the system to distinguish between those programs configured to be available under the control the user and those that are not configured to be available under the control the user.

22. (Original) The method according to claim 21 wherein the notification symbol is an icon.

23. (Original) The method according to claim 21 wherein the notification symbol is an alphanumeric string.

24. (Previously Presented) A method for distributing programming, the method comprising:

transmitting a first set of programs according to a schedule of programming;
storing a second set of the set of programs on a server, each of which is configured to be played for a user from the server under the user's playback control;
identifying when the user has tuned to a particular program according to the schedule of programming, the particular program having a counterpart program on the server that is substantially identical to the particular program; and
superimposing a notification symbol on the particular program.

25. (Original) The method according to claim 24 further comprising:
detecting a user request for descriptive information regarding the particular program;

transmitting descriptive information regarding the particular program, such descriptive information including the notification symbol.

26. (Original) The method according to claim 25 wherein detecting the user request for descriptive information comprises receiving a wireless request from a remote control.

27. (New) The method according to claim 1 further comprising:
receiving an identification of one of the first set of programs;

identifying the one of the first set of programs as a program to be transmitted in real time having a counterpart program stored on the server,

wherein the notification signal is transmitted based at least in part on the identifying that the one of the first set of programs has a counterpart, and wherein the notification signal distinguishes the one of the first set of programs from other programs that do not have counterpart programs stored on the server.

28. (New) The method according to claim 2 further comprising:
restarting the particular program from its beginning, wherein the restarted particular program is played from the server.

29. (New) The method according to claim 28 further comprising:
transmitting a menu including an interface selectable by the user to restart the particular program.

30. (New) The method according to claim 28 further comprising:
receiving a selection from the user to restart the particular program from its beginning.

31. (New) The method according to claim 2 further comprising:
receiving a selection from the user for playback control of the particular program;
playing back the particular program from the server from an intermediate point in the particular program.

32. (New) The method according to claim 1 wherein the at least one of the first set of programs and the counterpart each contain different promotional information and advertising.

33. (New) The method according to claim 1 wherein the at least one of the first set of programs and the counterpart each are stored and transmitted according to different standards.

34. (New) The method according to claim 24 further comprising:
restarting the particular program from its beginning, wherein the restarted particular program is played from the server.

35. (New) The method according to claim 34 further comprising:
transmitting a menu including an interface selectable by the user to restart the particular program.

36. (New) A method for distributing programming, the method comprising:
transmitting a first set of programs in real time according to a schedule of programming;
storing a second set of the set of programs on a server, each of which is configured to be transmitted from the server for playback under the user's control;
identifying when the user has tuned to a particular program of the first set of programs having a counterpart program on the server;
superimposing a notification symbol on the particular program upon identifying that the user has tuned to a program having the counterpart;
receiving a selection from the user requesting that the particular program be transmitted from the server to the user; and
transmitting the selected program from the server to the user, wherein the selected program is available for playback under the user's control.